THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) and (b) Allotment of funds for any particular project is made only on annual basis. The Karur-Dindigul Railway line is not a project in itself but forms part of the Karur- Dindigul- Madurai- Maniyachchi-Tirunelveli/Tuticorin B. G. line project.

This project was sanctioned in 1981-82 and year-wise expenditure upto 1983-84 is as under:—

1981-82	.. ..	Rs. 2.00 crores
1982-83	.. ..	Rs. 2.50 crores
1983-84	.. ..	Rs. 1.66 crores

In 1984-85, Rs. 10.00 crores has been allotted for this work.

Approximately, Rs. 7.25 crores have been spent on this project upto 30-6-1984.

Vacancies in faculty posts in Jawaharlal Nehru Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Pondicherry

1019. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the year-wise break-up of vacancies in different faculty posts in the Jawaharlal Nehru Post Graduate Institute of Medical Studies at Pondicherry;

(b) whether any memorandum has been submitted to Government in this regard; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government for an early filling of these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The year-wise break-up of vacancies in different faculty posts in the Jawaharlal Institute of Post-graduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry during the last four years is given below:

	1981	1982	1983	1984
Professors	10	13	12	9
Associate Professors	9	9	4	9
Assistant Professor/Lecturer	22	22	25	12

(b) The JIPMER Students Association in their representation for doubling the Post Graduate seats had also made a submission that the vacant faculty posts in the Jawaharlal Institute of Post-graduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry should be filled up.

(c) Efforts are being made on a continuing basis to fill up the vacant posts.

Seats in the Jawaharlal Nehru Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Studies, Pondicherry

1020. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the year-wise break-up of the number of seats available in various courses of higher studies in the Jawaharlal Nehru Post-Graduate

Institute of Medical Studies, Pondicherry during the last three years;

(b) whether any memorandum has been received by Government to increase the seats therein; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of steps being taken to increase the seats?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARe (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) 58 Post Graduate seats were available in Jawaharlal Institute of Post-graduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry during the year 1982 and 1983 and 60 such seats were available in the year 1984.

(b) and (c) The JIPMER Students Association, Pondicherry have Submitted a representation for doubling the Post-graduate seats for the Academic year 1986 when the two batches, each of 65 students admitted in the years 1979 and 1980 due to the restructuring of the MBBS Course by the Madras University would be eligible for admission to PG courses. Increase in the number of PG seats is dependent upon the facilities available in the Institute as well as the norms laid down by the Medical Council of India and a final view in this regard will be taken after examining these and other aspects.

Increase in prices of Vanaspati and Sugar

1021. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently increased prices of vanaspati and sugar;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what will be its likely impact on the consumer?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b) The price of vanaspati, which is presently under voluntary price control, was increased w.e.f. 24-5-1984. The price had to be increased to accommodate the hike in the cost of inputs especially of imported edible oils issued to the vanaspati industry. Unlike in the past wherein vanaspati prices were fixed on ex-factory basis, the time maximum retail price have been fixed for each pack of vanaspati. The retail prices of different packs excluding local taxes are given below:—

Pack Size	Maximum Retail Price
	(Rs.)
20 Kg. tin	304·00
15 Kg. tin	234·00
10 Kg. tin	165·00
10 Kg. polyjar	162·00
5 Kg. tin	87·00
5 Kg. polyjar	84·00
2 Kg. tin	38·00
2 Kg. polyjar	36·00
1 Kg. polyjar	18·00
1 Kg. poly pouch	16·00
½ Kg. poly pouch	8·25

There has been no increase in price of levy sugar recently. The price is Rs. 4/- per Kg. w.e.f. 1-2-1984.

(c) The increase in the ex-factory price of vanaspati is Rs. 1.45 per Kg. The ultimate increase in price to the consumer will depend upon local taxes like sales tax, octroi etc. prevailing in different States/Union Territories.